

5 **METHOD OF FAST AUTOMATIC EXPOSURE OR GAIN CONTROL IN A MOS****IMAGE SENSOR**Abstract of the Disclosure

In a CMOS image sensor, it is important to control the exposure time or gain. For varying changes in ambient light, the exposure time of the array must be changed. The present
10 invention describes a method for controlling the exposure time or gain. Each of the intensities of the pixels in a frame is analyzed to provide an indication of the number of pixels having an intensity above or below multiple predetermined thresholds. This information is then used to change the exposure time. The magnitude of change in the exposure time is also determined by the number of pixels having an intensity above or below multiple predetermined thresholds, as
15 the case may be.